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Executive Registry

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THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

24 DEC 1962

PERSONAL

THE C.I.A. HAS NO OBJECTION
TO THE DECLASSIFICATION OF
THIS DOCUMENT.

Dear John:

In reply to your memorandum of 6 December 1962 concerning the assignment of DoD personnel to the National Photographic Interpretation Center (NPIC) and its organizational structure, I would like to make the following observations.

At Bob's and my suggestion, Joe Carroll has been analyzing for some time the whole area of DoD photographic interpretation activity in order to (1) identify DoD photographic interpretation requirements more precisely (with particular emphasis on the needs of the unified and specified combatant commanders and the Joint Chiefs of Staff) and (2) outline DIA's specific responsibilities therein. Because of the relationship of photographic interpretation activity to intelligence production, Joe withheld his recommendations pending final determination of the detailed functions and manning of the DIA Production Center.

We approved the detailed plan for the DIA Production Center last Monday. As a consequence, yesterday Joe submitted his recommendations on DIA's photographic interpretation responsibilities to the Joint Chiefs of Staff for review prior to their being forwarded to Bob and myself.

Until our examination of Joe's recommendations has been completed it would be extremely difficult and premature for the Department to endorse a major organizational realignment of NPIC's internal structure and the assignment and administration of DoD personnel detailed thereto.

OSD REVIEW COMPLETED

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Consequently, we would like to hold any action involving NPIC in abeyance pending opportunity to review in detail DIA's photographic interpretation plan and consideration of the various subjects involving USIB, CIA, and the Department which you discussed with Bob and me several weeks ago.

Sincerely,

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Honorable John A. McCone
Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency

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